MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!
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People's power frees 'Aunty Lynn' from ICE detention!

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

After three months of community and union protests, Lewelyn Dixon, a migrant worker from the Philippines and a Service Employees International Union (SEIU) member, was finally allowed to walk out of the Northwest Immigration and Customs Enforcement Processing Center in Tacoma, Washington, on May 29.

Affectionately called "Aunty Lynn" by her community, after visiting relatives in the Philippines, the 64-year-old worker was stopped at the Seattle airport on Feb. 28 and placed in ICE detention.

Dixon was one of thousands of migrant workers swept up in the Trump administration's racist war against immigrant students and workers. Her release was won because her community and her union fought back against the unjust ICE action.

Dixon moved to the U.S. with her family fifty years ago when she was 14 and is a green card holder — a legal permanent resident. She is eligible to become a naturalized U.S. citizen, but she promised her grandfather she would keep her Philippine citizenship.

A lab technician at the University of Washington Medical Center and longtime SEIU 925 member, her struggle to get out of ICE custody drew national attention, including from as far away as Philadelphia.

Several dozen community and union activists held a rally outside the Philadelphia ICE offices on May 29, organized by SEIU, Make the Road PA and other groups. Speakers included Wei Chen of Asian Americans United, Ella from the Tanggol Migrante Network and Richard Genetti, American Federation of Government Employees. Chants included, "When we fight, we win!"

Union support for people picked up by ICE — from migrant workers to student activists for Palestine — is a welcome development. The worker activism that helped win Dixon's release is an example of what is needed in the struggle to fight back against the racist, sexist, anti-trans, ableist, anti-labor, fascist, pro-war, genocidal Trump administration.

Aunty Lynn is free, but the struggle continues for thousands more who have been targeted by an unjust and inhumane immigration system. ☐

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

SEIU led the Philadelphia rally, not only for Aunty Lynn but for all those facing immigration injustices. May 29, 2025.

WW PHOTO: JIM MCMAHAN

Trans activists in Seattle confront fascist bigots, May 24, 2025. Read article at workers.org/?p=86008.

WW PHOTO: TONI ARENSTEIN

Workers World Party participates in the annual Pride march in Queens, New York, June 1, 2025.

In this issue

- **Editorial**

Students deepen resistance for Palestine 3

- **Around the World**

Famine in Gaza – What could be done 4

- **Mundo Obrero**

El genocidio en Gaza es la fuente de toda violencia 5

Articles at workers.org

- **In the U.S.**

Impact of a $36 trillion U.S. government debt . . . . . LINK
Protest at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma . . . . . LINK
Portland Memorial Day protest for Palestine . . . . . LINK
An anti-imperialist party open to tactical changes . . . . . LINK
Fool's gold: Trump's crypto scam – a U.S. trademark . . . . LINK

- **Around the World**

How the press framed Venezuela's May 25 elections . . . LINK
Resistance condemns Israeli massacre of Gazans . . . . . LINK
Hamas: Israel continues to sabotage negotiations . . . . . LINK
Build a new framework to explain global class war . . . . . LINK
China's role in combating imperialist domination . . . . . LINK
Burkina Faso: They're not vassals . . . . . LINK

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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at **www.workers.org/join-form** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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WORKERS WORLD editorial

Students deepen resistance for Palestine

At this year's graduation ceremonies in New York City, there was no business as usual. Students at Brooklyn College accepted their diplomas while carrying pro-Palestine flags and wearing keffiyehs; at Columbia University students and alumni burned diplomas; at Hunter College and at City College police attacked pro-Palestine demonstrators who disrupted commencement programs.

The refusal of the Israeli war machine to stop its genocide, the unanimous backing of the imperialist governments worldwide for the Zionist program, the inability of "the international community" of imperialist states to end the slaughter and the determination of the Palestinians and their allies to resist has changed the thinking of millions of people around the world, including in the United States, the main backer and arms supplier to the Israel Occupation Forces.

Students protesting the U.S.-armed Israeli genocide of Palestinians in Gaza have kept up their actions in U.S. universities despite police brutality, the threat of losing their degrees and, for international students, the threat of deportation. For anyone asking why, consider the following:

For nearly 20 months, they have witnessed on graphic videos the Israel Occupation Forces massacre tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians, about 40% of them children, living in a strip of territory the size of Philadelphia. Now they witness the IOF stopping food from reaching hundreds of thousands of starving people.

They have seen the U.S. government — both under a Democratic and a Republican administration — feed the Israeli war machine and approve that genocide and starvation, approve the destruction of hospitals and schools, the murder of journalists and health workers.

They have felt their own university administrations' cowardice toward government authorities and wealthy alumni

Megha Vemuri denounces MIT's complicity with Israel's genocide in Gaza during commencement speech, May 30, 2025.

coupled with callous brutality against their peers.

They have witnessed international legal organizations bring legitimate charges against Israeli political leaders for crimes of genocide. They believe the Israeli leaders and leaders of other countries who arm the Zionist state are both guilty. And they see no one punished for these crimes.

They have watched a worldwide movement grow. They know it must grow faster. But it has grown enough that the rulers flail around to repress it. And fail.

And more than anything else, the students watch the Palestinian people and their organizations, despite their suffering, refuse to surrender. Their example can inspire a lifetime of struggle.

There should be no surprise that under these conditions, students and others here speak out, sit in, scorn the university where they spent years striving for a degree and that some will use the perfect moment to speak out: commencement.

At George Washington University in Washington, D.C., Cecilia Culver ignored the typed talk she had turned in and called on the school to divest from Israel.

At New York University Logan Rozor condemned the genocide in Gaza. NYU President John Beckman accused Rozor of having "lied about the speech he would deliver." Beckman failed to expose the lies of Presidents Joe Biden and Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu about their complicity in genocide.

The rulers of governments and universities who excuse apartheid and ethnic cleansing teach a lasting lesson to today's aware, active and alert students: These administrators under U.S. imperialism manage a system built on war, death, exploitation and lies. The students can submit or resist. They resist.

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Megha Vemuri resisted. Her "not preapproved" speech commended her fellow students who protested on behalf of Palestinians and denounced M.I.T.'s ties with Israel. School officials barred Vemuri from the graduation ceremony. She wrote in response, "I see no need for me to walk across the stage of an institution that is complicit in this genocide."

And this is just a commencement. ☐

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WW COMMENTARY

Famine in Gaza – What could be done

By Sara Flounders

The horrific famine that the Israel Occupation Forces has imposed on Gaza is world news. The IOF has cut off all deliveries of any food or medicine to Gaza for nearly three months.

While protests of the famine have caused handwringing among spokespeople in imperialist capitals, none have taken steps to seriously challenge the Israeli regime and feed the starving people of Gaza. U.S. imperialism is directly complicit in causing the starvation and has relentlessly provided the weapons and funding to continue the war.

Even before the October 7, 2023, seizure of hostages, Gaza's 2.2 million people needed at least 500 trucks a day of basic food and essential supplies to survive. The Palestinian resistance's military operation 20 months ago was a desperate attempt to break out of this strangulation.

The Israeli war machine has continued ruthlessly bombing gathering sites, including tent encampments and schools. Hospitals lack any essential supplies and are barely functioning. The IOF has targeted and executed clearly marked international aid workers and medical staff, as well as media workers reporting the genocide.

None of this policy of systematic starvation is secret. International organizations have accused Israel of weaponizing hunger and using the blockade to try to ethnically cleanse Gaza. The United Nations and other international organizations have issued urgent alerts, reports and graphic photos of the suffering in Gaza.

Hunger strikes

In recent weeks, students across multiple university campuses in the United States and military veterans at the United Nations have launched hunger strikes in solidarity with Gaza's people enduring famine.

In response to the pressure, the U.S. government publicized a program called the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), which had close ties to U.S. and Israeli military elements. Under the plan, a U.S.-based organization would handle the aid. Private military contractors would secure the distribution sites. The Israeli military would provide "necessary security."

Over 100 Palestinians have been killed and 540 wounded as of June 3 while attempting to reach the GHF food aid site in Gaza. Witnesses reported that Israeli forces began firing at the crowds of people 1,000 yards from the aid site.

An open letter from 11 leading aid and human rights organizations condemned the U.S.-designed GHF as a "dangerous politicized sham" and a "blueprint for ethnic cleansing." It continued, "The restriction of aid is being used as a weapon of war." (reliefweb.int, May 19)

The U.S.-Israeli plan includes displacing hundreds of thousands of Palestinians or abandoning more than 1 million people to famine. It includes delivering limited supplies to only 1.2 million of Gaza's 2.2 million people. Its goal is to pressure countries to begin to take in Palestinians. It is a calculated plan for ethnic cleansing of at least half of Gaza's population.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the head of the World Health Organization (WHO), warned that "two million people are starving while 160,000 tons of food are blocked at the border just minutes away."

Rather than resume the desperately needed aid of at least 500 trucks a day and facing mounting international pressure and threats, Israel has allowed only a few trucks to enter, with a cynical amount of publicity, while blocking any plan for future distribution.

Freedom Flotilla Coalition

Eleven activists with the Freedom Flotilla Coalition sailed from Catania, Sicily, on June 1 aboard the ship "Madleen" with a cargo of humanitarian aid for Gaza. Climate activist Greta Thunberg, European Member of Parliament Rima Hassan and Palestinian-American lawyer Huwaida Arraf are among those aboard. In May, an earlier FFC vessel attempting to bring aid to Gaza was fired on by the Israeli military while sailing in international waters.

Aid could be delivered

Other imperialist countries in NATO, including Britain, France, Germany and Canada, have the tools to send needed aid and to force the issue. Instead, their governments have made useless pro-forma denunciations of Israeli tactics and allowed the starvation to continue. This lack of action makes them complicit.

These major imperialist powers could challenge this deliberate starvation by flying their own planes in massive cargo deliveries of supplies throughout Gaza. But they choose not to. Would the Zionist state shoot down numerous French or British planes carrying loads of supplies?

PHOTO: MIDDLE EAST EYE

The Madleen, carrying aid from Italy to Gaza, with activists from the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, June 2, 2025.

Israel has fired drones in international waters to block people-to-people aid such as the ship of the international Freedom Flotilla.

But the navy ships of major powers do not face the same threat. Clearly these former colonial powers have delivered aid by air and by sea in the past and have the supplies and the planes and ships to bring in needed food. Based on mass public pressure they respond by wringing their hands. But they are not willing to challenge this genocide.

If any of the major powers were concerned about an "international incident" if their planes or ships were hit, if there were casualties, they could easily send hundreds of drones carrying supplies into Gaza. Drones don't only carry deadly weapons. They can carry food, medicines, generators, fuel, tents, blankets.

Israel supplies its military occupation with emergency drone deliveries.

The U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) claims to have been pre-positioning equipment for humanitarian intervention and developing the use of drones since 2017 to improve preparedness and response to humanitarian emergencies. (www.wfp.org/wfp-drones)

The WFP asserts that it has decades of experience in aviation, logistics, telecommunications and supply delivery operations in areas with significant "access constraints." WFP explains on their web site that the use of RPAS (Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems or drones) could help reduce the risks associated with staff security in conflict environments and remote locations.

Why isn't this equipment and the many tons of supplies of the WFP being used?

Continued on next page

Tiroteos en D.C.

DECLARACIÓN DE MO/NW

El genocidio EE.UU./israelí en Gaza es la fuente de toda violencia

23 de mayo de 2025 — Al evaluar el tiroteo del 21 de mayo en Washington, D.C., los últimos 19 meses de agresión israelí en toda Asia Occidental y especialmente su matanza de la población civil de Gaza, con cientos de miles de personas que ahora se enfrentan a la inanición, deben estar en primer plano. En esos 19 meses, a pesar de la oposición masiva en todo Estados Unidos y a nivel internacional, tanto la administración demócrata como la republicana siguieron armando este genocidio y atacando agresivamente a quienes protestan.

Nosotros, en el Partido Mundo Obrero creemos que la organización para la resistencia colectiva es el arma más eficaz contra la violencia cotidiana del imperialismo. Pero nunca debemos separarnos de quienes emprenden una acción que se ven impulsados a llevar a cabo, independientemente del coste personal que ello les suponga. Esto incluye el asesinato de dos empleados de la embajada israelí, presuntamente a manos de Elías Rodríguez el 21 de mayo.

Es comprensible que, como hizo Aaron Bushnell con su autosacrificio hace más de un año, otros se sientan movidos a emprender su propia acción con la esperanza de detener estos horribles crímenes de guerra estadounidenses-israelíes.

El imperialismo estadounidense es un sistema completamente violento, represivo y brutal. Las guerras, invasiones y ocupaciones estadounidenses son responsables de la muerte de millones de personas: en Corea, Vietnam, América Central y del Sur, en Afganistán, Iraq y Libia, en Yugoslavia y Ucrania en Europa y, de forma implacable durante décadas, en Palestina, con el Estado israelí como asesino voluntario.

La violencia intencionada de las sanciones estranguladoras de Estados Unidos ha amenazado con la ruina económica a más de 40 países, incluidos casi todos los países de Asia Occidental - Palestina, Yemen, Siria, Líbano, Irak e Irán - y a Afganistán y a través de África a Libia, Sudán, Sudán del Sur, Etiopía, Eritrea, Malí, Zimbabue, a Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela y muchos otros.

El estado imperialista estadounidense también ejerce esta violencia dentro de sus fronteras. Estados Unidos tiene hoy la mayor población carcelaria del mundo, una media de tres asesinatos policiales diarios y redadas y acorralamientos de inmigrantes, todo ello mientras criminaliza y amenaza con acabar con toda forma de oposición pública de masas.

El imperialismo estadounidense es el principal financiador y el que más armas proporciona al horrible genocidio sionista que vemos a diario en nuestras pantallas.

¡Se cosecha lo que se siembra!

Los actos de resistencia, incluso los individuales, son inevitables y merecen apoyo y defensa, no sermones contra la violencia individual en medio de esta destrucción genocida y masiva.

Los dos empleados asesinados de la embajada israelí en Washington, D.C., Yaron Lischinsky y Sarah Lynn Milgrim, eran representantes oficiales del Estado israelí. Son responsables de su genocidio. Mientras los medios de comunicación corporativos prácticamente presentaban a los dos como amantes de la paz, eran fervientes defensores de la incesante violencia sionista en Palestina.

MO FOTO: JOE PIETTE

Washington, D.C., 4 de noviembre de 2023.

Lischinsky, sionista cristiano y ciudadano alemán, se alistó en las Fuerzas de Ocupación de Israel. Publicó tuits en X en los que intentaba justificar la hambruna masiva israelí, los ataques contra niños y el bombardeo de hospitales, escuelas y convoyes de la ONU en Gaza. En otras palabras, alentó el genocidio.

Elías Rodríguez declaró en un manifiesto que explicaba su acto de protesta política: «Las atrocidades cometidas por los israelíes contra Palestina desafían la descripción y la cuantificación». Gritó «¡Palestina libre!» en el lugar de los hechos. (Para consultar la declaración de Rodríguez, véase ***workers.org/?p=85786***)

Todos los actos de resistencia al genocidio de Gaza, un genocidio expuesto al mundo, merecen ser defendidos por el movimiento en su conjunto.

Centremos toda la atención en la fuente de la violencia: el imperialismo estadounidense y su violenta fuerza sustituta, el sionismo. ❐

Famine in Gaza – What could be done

Continued from previous page

The WFP delivers food assistance and has even distributed cash to support local economies to three million people in front line areas during the war in Ukraine. Why can't or won't it deliver supplies to two million people in Gaza?

The World Food Programme has also delivered thousands of tons of food during wars in the Horn of Africa.

Although they delivered extensive aid in the past, the WFP now claims it needs to wait for Israeli access and permission. It seems to also need U.S. permission.

This reveals the ugly truth that all of the imperialist countries aligned with U.S. imperialism seek the destruction of resistance in Gaza and in West Asia.

They might express concern for the death of defenseless children, but they are part of the effort to defeat the continuing resistance that challenges all of imperialist rule in West Asia. ❐

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